

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application, and for the personal interview conducted on August 15, 2005. This paper filed in response to the interview at the request of the Examiner.

Claims 7, 9–17 and 19–21 remain in this application. The remaining claims have been canceled.

Claims 7, 17 and 19–21 are indicated as being allowable by the Examiner. Claims 9–17 and 19–21 were previously indicated as being allowable by the Examiner. Claims 15 and 16 are objected to, but were indicated as being allowable if put into independent format.

Claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 are newly rejected under 15 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Cambier *et al.* (U.S. 6,532,298). Claims 11 and 12 are newly rejected under 15 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over Cambier. For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 recites an iris camera module comprising:

an image pickup optical system for picking up an image of the iris of a user; and

a target optical system including a target screen for displaying a target for aligning the eye of the user, wherein the target optical system and the image pickup optical system are integrated onto a common substrate.

The reference does not teach the “target screen” of the claim. As discussed at the personal interview, the “target screen” of the claim is an actual physical component of the module. In contrast, element 115 of Fig. 2A is defined as a “virtual image 115” which is a *reflected* image into the iris of the viewer that only *appears* to be an actual target image (see col. 4, lines 52–62). There is no physical screen at all, which is why the drawing uses dashed lines for element 115 (representing a *virtual* item), and why the description uses the name “virtual

image.” A complete reading of the reference shows that there is no teaching of any physical component “target screen” at all. The Examiner agreed, at the interview, that if the Applicant defined in the record that the target screen is a “physical component”, that the claim would not read on the cited prior art.

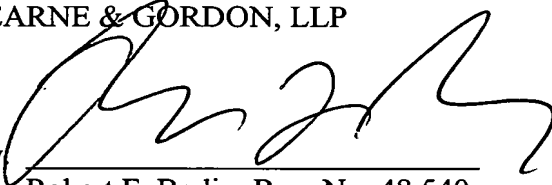
Accordingly, claim 9 is patentable over the reference, because it does not teach a physical “target screen” component. Claims 10–12, 13, and 14, which depend, directly or indirectly, upon claim 9, are thus patentable over the reference for at least the same reason.

In consideration of the foregoing analysis, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33781.

Respectfully submitted,
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By



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